

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM  
FY 2000 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM  
PROJECT NUMBER: 71a

I. Project Title: Refinement of the Colorado CRDSS Model to Better Reflect the Depletion Flows of the Little Snake River

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III. Project Summary:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is in the process of developing flow recommendations for an 82-mile segment of the Yampa River and the Little Snake River below Dixon, Wyoming. The recommendations will be submitted to the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) for review and implementation as appropriate.

Before the CWCB can file applications in Water Court, the physical and legal availability of the water must be evaluated. A refinement update to the CRDSS model would provide a tool that would enable the CWCB to evaluate the following:

Impacts on the Little Snake River instream flow from different levels and patterns of future water development,

Amounts, pattern and priority of the water right filings as well as implications of enforcement of the water right and administration of other water rights.

IV. Study Schedule:

Refinement of the Yampa CRDSS model commenced in FY 2000 and continues with the progress of the Yampa River PBO and Management Plans. Completion is dependent on the receipt of Little Snake River water use data from Wyoming.

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

Little Snake I.C.3.

VI. Accomplishment of FY 2000 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

Refinements to the CRDSS Yampa River Model were made throughout FY 2000 in conjunction with the Yampa River PBO process. Model results of various scenarios were

- provided to enhance decision-making in the Yampa River PBO process.
- VII. Recommendations: No recommendations at this time.
- VIII. Project Status: Ongoing in conjunction with the Yampa PBO process.
- IX. FY 2000 Budget Status:
- |    |                 |          |  |
|----|-----------------|----------|--|
| A. | Funds Provided: | \$30,000 | in-kind services, Colorado and Wyoming |
| B. | Funds Expended: | \$15,000 | in-kind services, Colorado             |
| C. | Difference:     | \$15,000 |  |
- D. % of FY 2000 work completed, projected costs to complete:
- 80% of the work is completed.  
The remaining 20% should be completed in FY 2001, but is dependent on the progress of the Yampa PBO and receipt of Little Snake River water use data from Wyoming.
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: \$0
- X. Status of Data Submission:
- Existing Phase IIb CRDSS Yampa Model available online at [cdss.state.co.us](http://cdss.state.co.us).
- XI. Signature: *Ray Alvarado* Date: Dec. 3, 2000